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October 3, 1997

Federal Election Commission
999 "E" Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20463

Commissioners:

I am the Treasurer of Friends for Jim McDermott and Friends of Jim McDermott.

Two days ago, because of telephone message from a reporter, I learned that the Commission has not received my filing of the July the 31st, 1997, Mid-Year Report from Friends for Jim McDermott and Friends of Jim McDermott. I have not received any letter or communication of any kind from the Commission or the Commission's staff informing me of this situation, so, until I received this message, I did not know that my reports had not been received by the Commission. The responsibility to file these reports is entirely mine. The apparent failure of the reports I filed in July, 1997, for these Committees, to reach the Commission is entirely my responsibility. I enclose herewith an amended filing for the Committees. I believe that the Commission deserves an explanation of the circumstances in which this filing is made.

Due to the press of business responsibilities, I was unable to complete the reports before I had to leave the United States on July the 16th on a trip to Australia and New Zealand. This trip was primarily, though not entirely, a vacation. As a result, I took all of my records and documents with me. We arrived in Melbourne, Australia, on July the 18th, 1997. I completed my work on the reports during the first few days after our arrival in Australia. From Australia, I called the Commission offices to inquire as to the best way in which to submit my reports. Commission staff told me that faxed filings were not legal because they would not contain an original signature. So, on the day on which I mailed the report, I faxed a notice to the Commission that the reports had been mailed. We then continued on our trip in Australia.

On August the 6th, our last day in Brisbane, Australia, I made arrangements through the Conrad Hilton International Hotel, where we were staying, to ship all of the McDermott Committees' records and several personal items home to the United States so that I would no longer have to carry nearly 50 pounds of papers with me. I asked that the documents be shipped in the most expeditious manner. I was told that they would be shipped by express mail and would arrive in the United States in no more than 3 weeks. I paid the Brisbane Conrad Hilton International Hotel \$ 142.00 or \$ 192.00 (Australian) to have all these documents shipped. The documents, which were contained in two boxes each weighing approximately 14 kilos, actually were left with the Hotel Conclerge on the 7th of August and were to be shipped that day. We then continued on our trip through Australia and New Zealand. We arrived back in the United States on August the 22nd, 1997. I expected the two boxes to be in the United States just before or just after my own return.

When the two boxes did not arrive by the end of August, I decided that I would allow another week for their arrival. My thinking was that Labor Day could possibly